



**SUMMARY OF STRATEGIC  
ACTIVITIES  
2015-16**

Québec Government  
Office in Brussels

Ministère des Relations internationales et de la Francophonie

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# OPENING REMARKS

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I am pleased to provide you with a summary of the strategic activities of the Québec Government Office in Brussels in 2015-2016 – an extremely eventful and diversified year during which we heightened awareness about Québec in the territory of the Benelux and among European institutions. We spared no effort to promote Québec's economic, cultural and scientific assets. This summary is not meant to be exhaustive but rather is intended to present our General Delegation's main achievements. It is composed of six sections: Government Priorities; Economy; Identity, Culture and Visibility; Education and Youth Mobility; Science, Research and Innovation; Cooperation and Knowledge Sharing. It would be impossible to review the year's activities without evoking the tragedy that struck Brussels in the aftermath of the Paris attacks. These horrific events led to an unprecedented outpouring of solidarity between Québec and Belgium. In closing, I wish to remind you that you should never hesitate to call on our services. Our team is competent and dedicated to serving Québec's interests!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michel Audet', written in a cursive style.

Michel Audet

Québec Delegate General in Brussels

# GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES

The Québec Government Office in Brussels (DGQB) deployed extensive efforts in 2015-2016 to promote the Government of Québec's main priorities, placing particular emphasis on the Maritime Strategy, sustainable development and preventing radicalization, as well as on the migrant crisis.

## THE MARITIME STRATEGY



The Québec Delegate General in Brussels, Michel Audet, and the Québec Minister for Maritime Affairs, Jean D'Amour, with businesspeople and Québec port representatives at the Autonomous Port of Liège.

The Delegation's team was very active in promoting the Maritime Strategy and seeking economic and scientific partners. Owing to its geographical location, the Benelux territory is of strategic importance for the Strategy's international deployment: it is the port of entry to the European continent and is home to two of Europe's largest ports, Rotterdam and Antwerp. In addition, it is a hub for world-class expertise in logistics, research and innovation. It is in this context that the Minister for the Implementation of the Maritime Strategy, Jean D'Amour, led a mission to the Netherlands and Belgium from September 21 to 25 to promote the Maritime Strategy to major world maritime industry players and European politicians. Accompanied by more than 25 representatives from the business and academic communities, including 10 representatives from Québec port authorities and seven from research and innovation organizations, the Minister visited some of the world's largest port facilities and took note of Europe's maritime expertise. The Minister also addressed MEPs and other political representatives at the European Parliament and engaged in constructive discussions with representatives from the European Commission. Among the mission's outcomes, particular mention should be made of a collaboration agreement between the Institut flamand de la mer (VLIZ) and the Institut des sciences de la mer à Rimouski (ISMER) as well as the confirmation of an agreement between the ports of Montréal and Antwerp.



The Québec Delegate General in Brussels, Michel Audet, and the Québec Minister for Maritime Affairs, Jean D'Amour, with a delegation of Québec researchers at the Maritime Research Institute Netherlands (MARIN) in Wageningen, Netherlands.

The Delegation lends its support to these special relations between the Port of Montréal and the Port of Antwerp on a regular basis. On May 27, 2015, an information seminar on the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) was organized by the Port of Antwerp in partnership with the Delegation and the Embassy. Port of Montréal President and CEO Sylvie Vachon and the Québec Delegate General in Brussels had an opportunity to speak at the seminar. The Maritime Strategy and this strategic partnership between the ports of Montréal and Antwerp place Québec in an enviable position for maximizing the economic benefits stemming from the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement.



(Left to right) The President and CEO of the Montréal Port Authority, Sylvie Vachon, the Québec Minister for Maritime Affairs, Jean D'Amour, the Flemish Minister for Mobility, Public Works and Tourism, Ben Weyts, and the President of the Antwerp Port Authority, Marc Van Peel.

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Taking advantage of the United Nations Conference on Climate Change (COP 21) held in Paris in December, where Québec played a leading role, the Delegation's team was extremely active with respect to sustainable development. The Delegate General met with Juraj Nociar and Bernd Biervert from the office of Commissioner Maroš Šefčovič, who is in charge of energy and one of the vice-presidents of the European Commission. Commissioner Šefčovič is especially interested in regions that are active in the fight against climate change and that contribute to Europe's energy policy. For information purposes, Commissioner Šefčovič carried out a mission to Montréal a few weeks after his team met with the Québec Delegate General in Brussels. Mr. Šefčovič was one of the European Union's representatives at COP 21 in Paris. The Delegate General also had the privilege of receiving Frédéric Gagnon-Lebrun, a climate change expert from the International Institute for Sustainable Development, and took part in discussions during the activities of the Assembly of European Unions to move the dossier for the territorial communities on the road to COP 21 forward.

The Delegate General promoted the Québec-California carbon market at the debate organized by the European Policy Centre think tank in Brussels on March 4. During EU Green Week 2015, Mr. Audet also highlighted Québec's expertise in sustainable development during a presentation given alongside representatives from Catalonia, Basque Country and Wales. Caroline Larrivée, Coordinator of the "Vulnerabilities, Impacts and Adaptation" program at Ouranos, the Montréal-based consortium on regional climatology and climate change adaptation, also took an active part in the event at the invitation of the DGQB.



Panel on the carbon market, organized by the Europe Policy Center (EPC).

## PREVENTING RADICALIZATION

Well before the tragic events that shook Belgium in recent months, the Delegation was cooperating with its partners, especially the French Community of Belgium, the Brussels-Capital Region and Flanders, to share best practices for preventing radicalization. Numerous working sessions, ministerial missions and meetings with experts took place throughout the year.

Mandated by the Premier to continue the collaborative efforts with our international partners to fight radicalization, the Minister of International Relations and La Francophonie, Christine St-Pierre, travelled to Brussels last January. She met with the Mayor of Brussels, Yvan Mayeur, the Vice-Minister President of Flanders and Minister of the Interior, Liesbeth Homans, the Minister President of the Brussels-Capital Region, Rudi Vervoort, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belgium, Didier Reynders, and the Minister of Youth Aid and Justice of the French Community of Belgium, Rachid Madrane.

It should be recalled that Mr. Madrane was in Montréal a few months earlier to visit the Centre for the Prevention of Radicalization Leading to Violence (CPRLV). On his return, Mr. Madrane had a decree adopted by the French Community of Belgium for the creation of a similar centre in French-speaking Belgium. During his visit, Minister Madrane also formalized cooperation with Québec in this area by signing a joint declaration with the Minister of Public Security, Pierre Moreau.

Representatives from the CPRLV carried out a mission to Belgium, during which they made a number of contacts and presented the Centre's model and operations, generating much interest among our Belgian partners. Several follow-ups to this mission are planned, including a partnership with the commune of Vilvoorde and the Brussels-Capital Region.



The Minister of Youth Aid, Justice and Brussels, Rachid Madrane, and the former Québec Minister of Public Security and current Minister for Finance, Pierre Moreau.

## THE MIGRANT CRISIS

Sadly, 2015-2016 was marked by the largest refugee crisis since World War II – a crisis that hit the European continent head-on. The Québec government showed its solidarity in light of this tragedy and took several initiatives to accept a number of refugees.

During her trip to Belgium last September, Minister St-Pierre visited Belgrade barracks on the outskirts of Namur. The barracks had managed to accommodate 400 refugees in the span of just a few days. Additionally, Ms. St-Pierre took part in a special meeting of the Group of Francophone Ambassadors, focusing on the migrant crisis. The permanent representative to the International Organization of La Francophonie in Brussels, Stéphane Lopez, and Laurent Muschel, Director of Migration and Asylum at the European Commission's Directorate-General for Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship, likewise took part in the discussions. Ms. St-Pierre also discussed this topic with several Belgian and European stakeholders, including the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belgium, Didier Reynders, and the Deputy Secretary General in charge of Economic and Global Issues at the European External Action Service (EEAS), Christian Leffler.



Meeting of the Group of Francophone Ambassadors (GAF) in the presence of the Québec Minister of International Relations and La Francophonie, Christine St-Pierre, at the offices of the DGQB.

# ECONOMY

The Delegation engaged in an abundance of economic activities in 2015-2016. The energy expended by the DGQB to advance Québec's economic priorities is reflected in its daily operations, from promoting the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement between Canada and the European Union to organizing the 70th anniversary gala of the Chamber of Commerce Canada-Belgium-Luxembourg, not to mention the many visits to the territory by Québec and Belgian businesses.



The Québec Minister of International Relations and La Francophonie, Christine St-Pierre, with (left to right): the Québec chief negotiator for CETA, Pierre-Marc Johnson, the Québec Delegate General in Brussels, Michel Audet, the Ambassador of Belgium to Canada, H.E. Raoul Delcorde, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Affairs, Didier Reynders, the Ambassador of Canada to Belgium and to the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg, Denis Robert, and the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce Canada-Belgium-Luxembourg (CanCham BeLux), JP Tanghe, during the CanCham BeLux Gala.

## PROMOTING THE CANADA-EU COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC AND TRADE AGREEMENT

In parallel to the Davos World Economic Forum, the DGQB received Québec's Minister of the Economy, Innovation and Exports, Jacques Daoust, and the chief CETA negotiator for Québec, Pierre-Marc Johnson. During the mission, Mr. Daoust met with several people in conjunction with CETA, including deputies and other representatives from the European Parliament, as well as from BUSINESSEUROPE and the European Services Forum. He also had discussions with Jean-Claude Marcourt, Vice-President and Minister of Economy, Industry, Innovation and Digital Technology of the Walloon Region, regarding CETA and matters pertaining to digital technology. Indeed, Mr. Marcourt's recent publication on Wallonia's digital strategy is of keen interest to the Québec government, which is preparing to draft a similar strategy in the near future. Mr. Johnson extended his mission for a series of CETA-linked meetings in Luxembourg, co-organized with the Canadian Embassy, where he met with the president of the Chamber of Representatives as well as members of the Committee on Foreign and European Affairs. He also took advantage of the opportunity to meet with print media journalists specializing in economic issues.



The Québec chief negotiator for CETA, Pierre-Marc Johnson, former Québec Minister of the Economy, Innovation and Exports and current Minister of Transport, Sustainable Mobility and Transport Electrification, Jacques Daoust, and the Québec Delegate General in Brussels, Michel Audet, in front of the European Commission.

## THE DELEGATION IN THE SERVICE OF QUÉBEC'S PROSPERITY

Also with respect to CETA, the DGQB coordinated the mission by Richard Ouellet, Professor of international economic law at the Université Laval Faculty of Law, who was invited to Belgium at the initiative of the DGQB. Dr. Ouellet met with Jacques Pelkmans, Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS), participated in a working session on CETA at the Parliament of Wallonia and met representatives from the European Commission and the European External Action Service.

In addition to these missions, the DGQB worked tirelessly to promote CETA to several European deputies and representatives from European regions and interest groups. The European and Multilateral Affairs Service took part in the European Business Summit, a major annual European forum for heads of companies and political decision makers in which Canada participated to promote CETA. Meetings organized regularly by the DGQB bring together advisors and heads of post from all of Québec's offices and delegations in Europe to discuss actions to take in Europe with respect to CETA.

The Québec Government Office in Brussels was highly involved in organizing the gala celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Chamber of Commerce Canada-Belgium-Luxembourg held on January 22. Several key political figures attended the event, including the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs. The gala was enhanced by the presence of the Minister of International Relations and La Francophonie, Christine St-Pierre, who gave a speech during the event.

Numerous meetings with Belgian and Québec companies were among the daily activities of the Delegate General and his team. Their travels included a visit to the Netherlands where they met with executives from Bombardier and TD Bank as well as persons in charge of operations and international relations at the Intertraffic trade event. Other activities of note include meetings with AluQuébec and the Aluminum Association of Canada aimed at deploying Québec's Aluminum Development Strategy and visits to the following companies: Sonaca in Charleroi, GSK in Wavre, CGI in Diegem and Bombardier in Bruges. These undertakings were in addition to the usual support provided to Investissement Québec for implementing promotion and investment attraction strategies.

Also of note are the various missions and support organized by the economic team, especially during the Seafood Expo Global Trade Fair in Brussels. Each year, the fair attracts over 26,000 visitors and more than 1,700 exhibitors, including a dozen Québec companies that come to Brussels specifically for the occasion.

In addition to these highlights, it should be mentioned that the Economic Affairs Service provided guidance to over 90 Québec companies in their internationalization efforts in the Benelux territory, offering them advice and strategic information for stimulating their exports to the Benelux and Europe. The Economic Affairs Service also drew up about ten tailor-made programs for partners, such as investment aid organizations, banks, associations, competitiveness hubs and municipalities.

Lastly, by interacting with the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce Canada-Belgium-Luxembourg and the Brussels ITC cluster, our team remains very active locally and has recently increased its presence in the activities of the Netherlands-Canada Chamber of Commerce. In broad terms, the economic attachés presented Québec's assets at over 50 multisectoral events in the territory covered by the Delegation.

## IDENTITY CULTURE AND VISIBILITY

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**Québec enjoys an exceptional showcase for the promotion of its culture in the Benelux territory. Indeed, Québec was spotlighted not only at the Wallonia Festival in Namur, but also in Mons, which was designated European Capital of Culture. In addition, the DGQB's initiatives to promote Québec identity and culture were guided throughout the year by the important role that La Francophonie plays in its priorities. The Delegation's Cultural Agenda was also marked by numerous sponsorship events as well as participation in events for the general public, including the Bruxelles-les-Bains Heure d'été film festival, where Montréal was featured.**

### THE WALLONIA FESTIVAL IN NAMUR

Québec had the privilege of being the guest of honour at the 2015 edition of the Wallonia Festival. The Wallonia Festival attracts some 250,000 people for four days of celebrations and is enlivened by a series of concerts, traditional folk performances and a major culinary component highlighting the Walloon region. Minister St-Pierre went to Namur, the epicentre of the celebrations, to inaugurate the venues where Québec was present: the tourism promotion booth, the exhibition of works by Québec illustrators, the fresco offered by

Québec City, and the Village des Saveurs. The Minister also represented Québec at protocol events, including a reception at the Walloon Parliament marking the beginning of the new parliamentary session in Wallonia and receptions hosted by the Mayor of Namur and Minister-President of the Walloon Region. In addition to this ministerial presence, the folk music group La Tuque bleue entertained thousands of enthusiastic spectators throughout the celebrations.



The Minister of International Relations and La Francophonie, Christine St-Pierre, speaking with the Mayor of Namur and Vice-President of the Government of Wallonia, Maxime Prévot (left), and the Prime Minister of Belgium, Charles Michel (right).

## QUÉBEC IN MONS, EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE

In conjunction with Mons, European Capital of Culture 2015, the Maison Folie invited eight partner cities and regions to demonstrate what shapes their identity via a dynamic, innovative and festive program. The public was invited to set its sights on America by way of Montréal and Québec to discover the Québec arts scene as well as never-before-seen projects created collaboratively by artists from Québec and Wallonia-Brussels. More than 80 Québec creators participated in this showcase, which presented events focusing on dance, theatre, performance arts, film, music, visual arts, digital arts and culinary arts to the general public, as well as to European programmers.

In addition to the Ailleurs en Folie event, Québec's presence at Mons 2015 included the world premiere of *L'Autre hiver*, directed by Denis Marleau and Stéphanie Jasmin, and based on a libretto by Normand Charette; the presentation of all seven of Sophocles' tragedies in a single day, directed by Wajdi Mouawad; exhibitions (photos of marionettes and the *Avoir 20 ans* project) as well as a multi-sensory installation by Alain Thibault, Jean-Sébastien Baillat and Sébastien Trudeau. The Delegation collaborated closely with Mons 2015 to organize and promote these activities.



Speech by the Québec Minister of International Relations and La Francophonie, Christine St-Pierre, at the opening of the Ailleurs en folie Montréal-Québec event in Mons, 2015.

## LA FRANCOPHONIE

The Delegate General is actively involved in promoting the French language in the territory. In addition to serving as Chair of the Democracy and Human Rights Working Group of the Group of Francophone Ambassadors (GAF) in Brussels, he is the Québec representative to the GAF in The Hague, Netherlands. Mr. Audet also took part in the French Language World Forum in Liège, aimed at promoting creativity as a driving force for French innovation. Accompanied by the Secretary General of the International Organization of La Francophonie, Michaëlle Jean, he attended the launch of the Francophone Press Club in Brussels. In conjunction with Francophonie month, the DGQB collaborated with the Embassy of Canada in The Hague to organize a concert by Angèle Dubeau and her orchestra La Pietà, which took place at the official residence of the Ambassador of Canada to the Netherlands, Sabine Nölke.



The Québec Delegate General in Brussels, Michel Audet, and the Ambassador of Canada to the Netherlands, Sabine Nölke, in the company of violinist Angèle Dubeau and her orchestra La Pietà, at the official residence of the Ambassador in The Hague.

## GENERAL PUBLIC EVENTS

The DGQB's agenda included several general public events in 2015-2016. Mention should first be made of the Québec National Day celebrations in Brussels which attracted more than 1,400 Quebecers and friends of Québec this year in a festive atmosphere. Additionally, the Bruxelles-les-Bains Heure d'été film festival showcased films featuring Montréal which drew more than 7,000 moviegoers to 14 outdoor screenings and more than 600 indoor screenings. The DGQB likewise participated in the annual EAT! Brussels Festival with two chefs from Québec Exquis presenting a selection of Québec products. Following Québec's designation as guest of honour last year, the Delegation further promoted Québec writers at the Book Fair, with 20 authors and some 25 publishers attending.



The Québec Delegate General in Brussels, Michel Audet, shaking hands with a participant during Québec National Day celebrations.

## INSTITUTIONAL VISIBILITY

The Delegation publishes a bi-monthly general newsletter (657 subscribers in French, 49 subscribers in Dutch) and a monthly cultural newsletter (1,497 subscribers in French, 169 subscribers in Dutch). It maintains a daily updated Facebook page (2,010 subscribers) and Twitter account (2,260 subscribers).

# EDUCATION AND YOUTH MOBILITY

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At the invitation of the Minister of International Relations and La Francophonie, Christine St-Pierre, the Minister-President of the French Community of Belgium, Rudy Demotte, made an official visit to Québec from February 1 to 5, 2016. Mr. Demotte and Ms. St-Pierre participated in the seminar on “La Mobilité un développement durable” (mobility: a sustainable development), co-organized by the International Youth Offices of Québec (LOJIQ) and the Brussels International Youth Office (BIJ). Close to 750 young people per year account for youth mobility between Québec and French-speaking Belgium.

In parallel to the seminar, the Minister and the Minister-President signed a statement of principles for adapting the governance mechanism of the Québec/Wallonia-Brussels Office for Youth (OQWBJ).

During his visit, Minister-President Demotte spoke with Québec Premier Philippe Couillard. The meetings enabled the Québec government to reaffirm the importance it places on its relations with the French Community of Belgium and strengthen collaboration in some sectors, including youth mobility. Both heads of government agreed to bolster efforts to facilitate youth and student mobility between Québec and French-speaking Belgium.

The Delegation deploys major efforts to expand exchanges between academic institutions. The Delegate General was therefore pleased to host a signing ceremony between Université de Montréal and the Université Libre de Bruxelles to enhance student mobility. The Delegate General met with the six rectors of Belgium’s French-speaking universities in order to gain a better understanding of their links with Québec and offer the Delegation’s services to further stimulate them.

Again this year, the Delegation received visits from numerous student groups from across Québec. Young Quebecers from Université de Sherbrooke, Université Laval, Cégep Saint-Jean-Sur-Richelieu and the Jean-Charles-Bonenfant Foundation of the Québec National Assembly visited Europe’s capital to familiarize themselves with European institutions and learn how a Québec government office abroad operates.

In May 2015, the Delegate General had the opportunity to address some forty Canadian and Québec university students to present the international action that Québec is taking in the Benelux and among European institutions. The students were travelling through Europe as part of the EU-Canada Study Tour, a three-week program dedicated to the study of the European Union's main institutions.

In addition to the four interns accepted by the Delegation this year, it bears noting that the European Parliament took on a Québec intern for a third year. Indeed, Mr. Esteban Salcedo joined the Delegation's secretariat team for relations with the United States and Canada, assisting with preparations for the visit by a delegation of Members of the European Parliament to Canada and Québec in May 2016. This was made possible through support from the International Government Organization Internship Program of the Québec Ministère des Relations internationales et de la Francophonie. Likewise, Mr. Vincent Fournier Gosselin and Mr. Gabriel Perriau interned at the Parliament of Wallonia and the Parliament of the French Community of Belgium respectively. Thanks to the support of the International Youth Offices of Québec (LOJIQ), Ms. Marie-Laurence Lacerte undertook an internship at [Impulse.brussels](http://Impulse.brussels).

## SCIENCE, RESEARCH AND INNOVATION



Chief Scientist of Québec, Rémi Quirion, with the European Commissioner of Research, Science and Innovation, Carlos Moedas.

The 7th European Innovation Summit provided an opportunity for the Québec Government Office in Brussels to welcome Dr. Rémi Quirion, Chief Scientist of Québec and Head of the Fonds de recherche du Québec. During his mission, Dr. Quirion spoke with the European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, Carlos Moedas, with whom he established an excellent rapport. He also met with other senior representatives of the European Commission. Discussions focused on electric mobility, nordicity and Québec's Maritime Strategy. Dr. Quirion's presence also made it possible to take stock of the first year of partnership between Québec and the European Regions Research and Innovation Network (ERRIN) and discuss the work agenda for the coming year. During his visit, the Chief Scientist also met with his counterparts from the National Fund for Scientific Research (NFSR) and the Flanders Research Fund (FWO). Dr. Quirion and his Flemish counterpart launched a call for projects resulting in the selection of five promising cooperation projects.

The General Delegation places particular importance on support for Québec researchers seeking European partners. Follow-up to calls for projects by such major European programs as Horizon 2020 is carried out and the information is relayed to potentially interested Québec stakeholders. The main areas monitored in 2015-2016 were marine and maritime research, transportation, health, energy and sustainable development.

This year, a special effort was deployed in the marine and maritime research sector, particularly in conjunction with the delegation of Québec researchers that accompanied Minister D'Amour during his mission to the Netherlands and Belgium. Meetings at the European Commission had been organized for the mission.

## COOPERATION AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING



The Québec Deputy Minister of International Relations and La Francophonie, Jean-Stéphane Bernard, with the General Administrator of Wallonia Brussels International, Pascale Delcomminette.

The 9th meeting of the Joint Commission for Cooperation (CMP), co-chaired by the Deputy Minister of International Relations and La Francophonie, Jean-Stéphane Bernard, and the General Administrator of Wallonia Brussels International, Pascale Delcomminette, was held in Brussels from May 18 to 20. At the close of the meeting, the two parties reported on the progress of

political and institutional relations and selected some 80 projects submitted in response to the 2015-2017 call for projects in the following priority research sectors: innovation, the digital industry, culture, higher education and public health. It was also agreed to hold the “Rendez-vous Québec/Wallonie-Bruxelles” every two years, with the first edition taking place in November 2016 under the theme “digital technology in culture.”

Québec’s Ministère des Relations internationales et de la Francophonie and the Flemish Ministry of Foreign Affairs jointly selected 15 cooperation projects during the 14th meeting of the Québec-Flanders Joint Commission 2016-2018. Financial support is granted to the creators of the projects selected to encourage collaboration between Flanders and Québec in such varied fields as the environment, health, literature and public safety.



DGQB representatives with Flemish government representatives.

## CLOSING REMARKS

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Overall, 2015-2016 was in many ways a prolific year in terms of both bilateral and multilateral relations. With a rich and varied program of activities, 2016-2017 is off to a highly promising start. One of the DGBQ's objectives this year is to strengthen and consolidate its ties with regions and States, particularly through government priorities: the Maritime Strategy, preventing radicalization, transportation electrification and sustainable development. Promoting CETA throughout Europe remains a key economic and political priority. More specifically on the economic front, the Delegation wishes to keep up its momentum and provide assistance to over 70 companies in their development in the territory. Regarding Québec's cultural outreach and identity, the action plan includes several activities for promoting Québec artists in major centres of the territory and assisting 150 Québec artists and companies in their market development plans. In addition, at least five activities to promote sustainable development and five others showcasing La Francophonie are on the agenda. In short, the Delegation is embarking on the new year with a busy and stimulating schedule.

# HIGHLIGHTS

## IN NUMBERS

All of the DGQB's initiatives contributed to promoting Québec government priorities, sharing scientific and entrepreneurial knowledge, cultural outreach and youth mobility.

**69** 

**HIGH-LEVEL EVENTS ORGANIZED OR ATTENDED**

**7** 

**ACTIVITIES ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZED**

**123** 

**HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS**

**21** 

**POLITICAL, INSTITUTIONAL, ECONOMIC OR SCIENTIFIC MISSIONS**

**26** 

**CULTURAL PROSPECTING AND COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES**

**251** 

**ARTISTS WERE PROVIDED SUPPORT**

**91** 

**GUIDANCE INITIATIVES PROVIDED TO COMPANIES**

**413** 

**QUÉBEC PARTICIPANTS CARRIED OUT PROJECTS IN WALLONIA-BRUSSELS THROUGH THE QUÉBEC/WALLONIA-BRUSSELS OFFICE FOR YOUTH (OQWBJ)**

**334** 

**YOUNG PEOPLE FROM WALLONIA AND BRUSSELS CARRIED OUT AN INTERNSHIP IN QUÉBEC THROUGH THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH OFFICE (BIJ - BUREAU INTERNATIONAL JEUNESSE)**



Québec 